AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A lead for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

a first lead body having at least one electrode;

a second lead body having at least one electrode; and

a connection member coupled to the first lead body and the second lead body and operable when the connecting member is in a first state to maintain at least a portion of the first lead body in a first position relative to at least a portion of the second lead body, wherein the connection member is resorbed when implanted within the epidural space of a patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second lead bodies to occur.

2. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the connection member comprises resorbable polymer material.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The lead in accordance with claim 1 wherein the connection member is further operable when the connecting member is in a second state to maintain the first lead body in a second position relative to the second lead body.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A lead system for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

a first lead;

a second lead; and

means coupled to the first lead and the second lead for maintaining at least a portion of the first lead in a first position relative to at least a portion of the second lead, wherein at least a portion of the means for maintaining comprises resorbable material that, when implanted within an epidural space of the patient, is resorbed over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second lead bodies to occur.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The lead system in accordance with claim [[8]] 7 further comprising:

means for placing at least a portion of the first lead in a second position relative to at least a portion of the second lead.

10. (Currently Amended) A lead system for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

a first lead;

a second lead; and

a connection member, comprising: [[,]]

a first portion attached to the first lead,

a second portion attached to the second lead and coupled to the first portion, and

~~and~~ wherein at least one of the first portion and the second portion comprises resorbable polymer material that is resorbed when implanted within the patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second leads to occur.

11. (Original) The lead system in accordance with claim 10 wherein the first portion and the second portion are coupled using a third portion.

12. (Currently Amended) The lead system in accordance with claim 11 wherein the third portion comprises resorbable polymer material.

13. (Currently Amended) The lead system in accordance with claim ~~10~~ 11 wherein the connection member orients the first lead with respect to the second lead.

14. (Currently Amended) The lead system in accordance with claim ~~10~~ 11 wherein the connection member is operable to maintain a predetermined maximum distance between the first lead and the second lead prior to when the at least one of the first portion and the third portion comprising resorbable material resorbs in a body.

15. (Currently Amended) The lead system in accordance with claim ~~10~~ 11 wherein the third portion comprises resorbable polymer material.

16. (Original) The lead system in accordance with claim 10 wherein the connection member couples the first lead to the second lead in a first fixed relation prior to insertion of the lead into a body and in a second fixed relation after insertion of the lead into the body.

17. (Currently Amended) A lead system for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

a first lead;

a second lead; and

a connection member, comprising: [[,]]

a first portion attached to the first lead,

a second portion attached to the second lead, and

a third portion coupled to the first portion and the second portion, and

~~and~~ wherein at least one of the first portion, the second portion and the third portion comprises resorbable polymer material that is resorbed when implanted within the patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second leads to occur.

18. (Currently Amended) A lead system for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

a first lead body, comprising: [[,]]

a proximal end and a distal end,

at least one contact electrode positioned proximate the proximal end,

at least one electrode positioned proximate the distal end, and

at least one conductor extending through the lead body and electrically connecting the contact electrode and the electrode;

a second lead body, comprising: [[,]]

a proximal end and a distal end,

at least one contact electrode positioned proximate the proximal end,

at least one electrode positioned proximate the distal end, and

at least one conductor extending through the lead body and electrically connecting the contact electrode and the electrode; and

a connection member, comprising: [[,]]

a first portion attached to the distal end of the first lead body,

a second portion attached to the distal end of the second lead body, and

a third portion coupled to the first portion and the second portion,

and wherein at least one of the first portion, the second portion, and the third portion comprises resorbable polymer material that is resorbed when implanted within the patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second lead bodies to occur.

19. (Currently Amended) The lead in accordance with claim 18 wherein the connection member is operable to maintain the first lead body and the second lead body in a substantially fixed position with respect to each other.

20-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a lead for spinal cord stimulation of a patient, comprising:

providing a first lead body having a distal end;

providing a second lead body having a distal end;

coupling the distal end of the first lead body to the distal end of the second lead body with a connection member, at least a portion of the connection member comprising resorbable polymer material that is resorbed when implanted within the patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second lead bodies to occur.

23. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 22 wherein the connection member comprises a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion, the first portion coupled to the second portion and the second portion coupled to the third portion, and further comprising:

coupling the first portion to the distal end of the first lead body; and

coupling the third portion of the distal end of the second lead body.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for stimulating ~~a portion of a body~~ the spinal cord of a patient, the system comprising:

a source for generating a stimulus; and

an implantable lead for receiving the stimulus from the source, the implantable lead comprising: [[,]]

a first lead;

a second lead; and

a connection member; [[,]] comprising,

a first portion attached to the first lead,

a second portion attached to the second lead, and

a third portion coupled to the first portion and the second portion,

and wherein at least one of the first portion, the second portion, and the third portion comprises resorbable polymer material that degrades when implanted within the patient over a sufficient period of time to allow fibrosis around the first and second leads to occur.

25. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 24 wherein the position of the first lead is substantially fixed with respect to the position of the second lead after the lead is inserted within a body.

26. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 24 wherein the source comprises a wireless receiver.

27. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 24 wherein the source comprises an implantable pulse generator.

28. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 24 further comprising a controller operable for communicating with the source and controlling the source.